

authorize the Commissioner to charge Applicants' above-identified Deposit Account in the appropriate amount. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims to recite as follows:

1. An end-seal patch bag comprising a heat-shrinkable bag comprising a tubular bag film, and a heat-shrinkable patch comprising a patch film, the patch being adhered to the bag, the patch extending across an entire width of a first lay-flat side of the tubular bag film, the patch bag having a seal across a bottom thereof, the seal being continuous across the entire width of the lay-flat bag film, the seal being through both the patch as well as through both lay-flat sides of the bag, the seal being the only seal across the bag.

2. (Once Amended) A patch bag comprising a heat-shrinkable bag comprising a tubular bag film, and a heat-shrinkable patch comprising a patch film, the patch being adhered to the bag, the patch bag having a seal which is through both the patch as well as through both lay-flat sides of the bag, the sealed bag having a burst strength of at least 26 inches of water in a Linear Ramp Hot Burst Grease Test.

4. (Once Amended) The patch bag according to Claim 3, wherein the patch bag is a side-seal patch bag, and both the first patch and the second patch extend across an entire length of the

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bag, the patch bag having a first seal along a first edge of the bag and a second seal along a second edge of the bag, and a folded bottom edge, the first and second seals being through the first patch, the second patch, and the bag film.

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6. (Once Amended) The end-seal patch bag according to Claim 5, wherein the bag has an uncovered top portion.

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18. (Once Amended) The process according to Claim 17, wherein the first seal bar and the second seal bar each comprise nichrome wire.

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23. (Once Amended) The process according to Claim 22, wherein a means for controlling the temperature constantly monitors and controls the voltage and current flowing through the first and second sealing bars, so as to constantly monitor and control the temperature of the first and second sealing bars at a pre-set maximum temperature during sealing.

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